The Separate Traders Scheme for carrying on the Trade to Africa.

I. THAT in caſe the Parliament ſhall judge it neceſſary, that the Traders to *Africa* ſhould be incorporated, Her Majeſty may incoporate them accordingly; with ſuch Powers as ſhall be neceſſary for enlarging the ſaid Trade, and for the providing for incident Charges, on extraordinary Occaſions; ſo as every Subject of Her Majeſty's may become a Member of ſuch Corporation, upon paying ſuch Fine, as the Parliament ſhall judge reaſonable, and ſo as the Trade be preſerved free and open, according to the Reſolutions of the Honourable Houſe of Commons.

II. That ſuch Equivalent be given to the *Royal-African-Company*, for their Intereſt in the Forts and Settlements, on the Coaſt of *Africa*, now in their Poſſeſſion, as to the Wiſdom of the Parliament ſhall ſeem meet.

III. That the ſaid Forts and Settlements be veſted in Her Majeſty, Her Heirs and Succeſſors.

IV. That Her Majeſty may appoint ſuch Governours, and other Officers and Soldiers, for the Defence of the ſaid Forts and Settlements, from time to time, as to Her Majeſty ſhall ſeem meet.

V. That for the enabling Her Majeſty to maintain ſuch Forts and Settlements, as ſhall be neceſſary for the carrying on and preſerving the ſaid Trade, and the providing the Equivalent for the *Royal-African-Company*, the ſeveral Duties appointed by an Act of Parliament, 1697. to be paid by the Separate Traders to the *Royal-African-Company*, be made payable to Her Majeſty, Her Heirs and Succeſſors.

VI. That in caſe the ſaid Duties ſhall not be thought Sufficient, for the purpoſes aforeſaid; a further Duty be granted to Her Majeſty, out of the ſaid Trade or a Duty of *per* head be laid on all Negroes, to be imported into any of Her Majeſt's Plantations; to be paid by the Importer, to continue for ſuch time as to the Parliament ſhall ſeem meet.

VII. That for the better enabling Her Majeſty, to maintain the ſaid Forts and Settlements, every Maſter of any Ship or Veſſel of the Burthen of 100 Tuns, bound for the Coaſt of *Africa*, ſhall be obliged (if required) to take on Board Tuns of Proviſion, Ammunition, Stores, Materials for building and other Neceſſaries for the Garriſon of the ſaid Forts and Settlements, and deliver the ſame at each of the ſaid Forts and Settlements as ſhall be directed Freight-Free; and ſhall be obliged to tranſport Soldiers to any of the ſaid Forts and Settlements at *per* Head; and ſo every Maſter of any other Ship in greater or leſſer Quantities and Numbers, in Proportion to the Burden of his Ship or Veſſel.

VIII. That the ſeveral Clauſes, Proviſoes, Reſtrictions, and Regulations, relating to the Trade to *Africa* in the ſaid Act, 1697. be continued.

IX. That all Perſons be prohibited under a Penalty from making any Improvements on the Coaſt; by Planting Sugar-Canes, Indigo, Ginger, Cotton; Tobacco, or other Plantation Commodities.

X. That all Perſons be prohibited under a Penalty from carry off any Free Negroes wrongfully from *Africa*.

XI. That all the Forfeitures appointed by the ſaid Act, 1697. for Settling the Trade to *Africa*, be granted to Her Majeſty, for and towards the Maintaining the ſaid Forts and Settlements; reſerving thereout ſuch part of them for the Informers as the Parliament ſhall judge Proper.

XII. That no Governour or any other Officer, belonging to the ſaid Forts and Settlements ſo appointed by Her Majeſty, ſhall have the Liberty of the ſaid Trade; nor any Merchant, or other Perſon whatſoever ſhall load Negroes on Board any Ships or Veſſels, but ſuch as belong to *Great-Britain*, or the Plantations.

XIII. That Her Majeſty (if ſhe thinks fit) may grant Licenſes to the Traders to *Africa* as aforeſaid, to contract with *Spain* or *Portugal*, to ſupply the *Spaniſh* or *Portuguze* Settlements in *America* with Negroes; to be carried thither directly from the Coaſt of *Africa*.

And humbly add further (as a Security for the Preſervation of this Trade, and Supply of the Plantations with ſufficient Numbers of Negroes) that whilſt *Great-Britain* produces Manufactures, and whilſt *Africa* produces Gold and Slaves, and whilſt our Plantations and thoſe of the *Spaniards* want the labour of Negroes, the *African* Trade can never be loſt to *Great-Britain*, unleſs the *French* or *Dutch* Joynt-Stock Companies do intercept it, or we by underſelling and dear buying, ruin one another.

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